

Changes to Library Services Our Ideas 2020

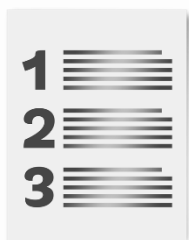


Introduction



The Council runs 6 libraries in Bexley

We also support 6 other libraries which are run by community groups



We have ideas to change libraries to help us save money but still help people to use libraries when they need to



We have done some research about how libraries are used now and what people might want in the future



We have used that research to think of ideas to run libraries differently

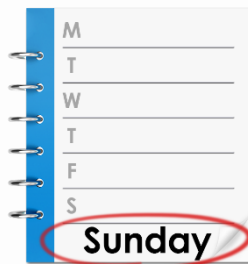


We want to know what people think of our ideas to help us choose

Idea 1



At the moment libraries are open all day Monday to Saturday



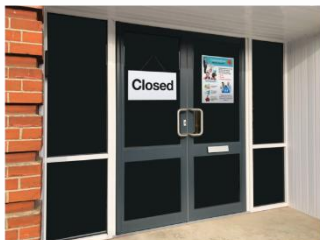
At the moment Central Library in Bexleyheath is open on Sunday morning



At the moment some libraries are open late until 7pm once a week



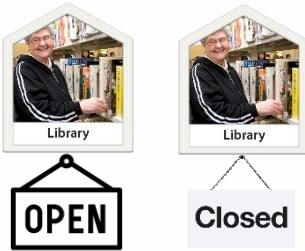
This idea for the future is:



Every library will be closed for one day a week or for two half days a week



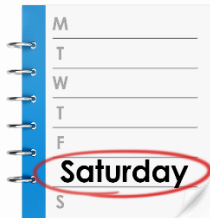
They would be closed at times when they usually have fewer visitors



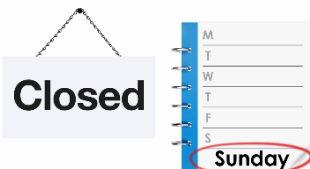
Libraries that are near to each other would not be closed on the same day



None of the libraries will be open until 7pm



We will make sure that some libraries are still open on Saturdays for people who cannot visit during the week



All libraries will be closed on Sundays

Idea 2



All libraries have self-service machines that people can use to get or return their books



Self-service computers can also be used to look up books or book time to use a computer



With this idea libraries will be open most days but will not always have staff



You would have to use self-service every morning or every afternoon

Library staff would be there to help you at other times



There would still be security so that people are safe

Idea 3



At the moment staff in libraries run events and activities with the help of volunteers



With this idea there will not be as many activities run by library staff



We will try to get volunteers or other organisations to run activities in libraries instead



We will speak to people about what activities they want and try to run those

Idea 4



At the moment there is a Local Studies and Archive Centre in Bexleyheath



The Centre is where people can research the history of Bexley or their families



With this idea the Centre would stay open but would have less staff

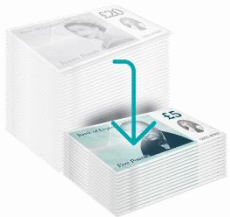


People could still use the Centre but if they need help from staff they would have to make an appointment

Idea 5



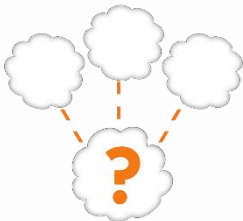
Some libraries are run by community groups and we help them to run them by giving them money, staff or help with maintenance



With this idea we would give them less money or would not give them any money



They would have to raise the money themselves to carry on running the library



This might mean they could not carry on running the library

If this happened we would try to find other people to run it instead



If we could not find other people to run the library it would close

Idea 6



The libraries could carry on in the same way they do at the moment



This would mean that we couldn't save any money



We need to try to save money because people need more care and support now which costs us more money



We are interested in other ideas that people may have to help us save money but still have good libraries

If you want to tell us what you think of our ideas or have your own idea



You can fill out our survey online
<https://www.bexley.gov.uk/consultations/changes-library-services-bexley-2020>



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